



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Ralph Hall
House of Representatives
2236 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

AUG 12 1993

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Secretary
222

8310 MEA
9302989

RECEIVED

AUG 16 1993

Dear Congressman Hall:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

James H. Quello

James H. Quello
Chairman

No. of Copies rec'd 2 copies
List A B C D E



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

Honorable Michael A. Andrews
House of Representatives
303 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Andrews:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James H. Quello", is written over a horizontal line.

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable William R. Archer
House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Archer:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Joe L. Barton
House of Representatives
1514 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Barton:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Jack Brooks
House of Representatives
2449 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Brooks:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James H. Quello", is positioned above the printed name and title.

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable John Bryant
House of Representatives
205 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Bryant:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James H. Quello", is positioned above the typed name.

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Jim Chapman
House of Representatives
2417 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Chapman:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Chet Edwards
House of Representatives
328 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Edwards:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Jack Fields, Jr.
House of Representatives
2228 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Fields:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable E. (Kika) de la Garza
House of Representatives
1401 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman de la Garza:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Pete Geren
House of Representatives
1730 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Geren:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Martin Frost
House of Representatives
2459 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Frost:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
House of Representatives
1721 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Johnson:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Greg Laughlin
House of Representatives
236 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Laughlin:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "James H. Quello", is positioned above the printed name and title.

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable J. J. Pickle
House of Representatives
242 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Pickle:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James H. Quello", is positioned above the printed name.

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Sam Johnson
House of Representatives
1030 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Johnson:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Charles W. Stenholm
House of Representatives
1211 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Stenholm:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James H. Quello", is positioned above the printed name.

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Charles Wilson
House of Representatives
2256 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Wilson:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Ronald Coleman
House of Representatives
440 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Coleman:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James H. Quello", is positioned above the printed name.

James H. Quello
Chairman



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

AUG 12 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Frank M. Tejeda
House of Representatives
323 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Tejeda:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

As you know, our rate regulations are currently under reconsideration. Accordingly, your comments are being made part of the record of that proceeding (MM Docket No. 92-266).

In addition, I wish to reiterate my own concerns about the regulatory impact of the 1992 Cable Act on small cable systems, especially those not affiliated with any MSO. I have directed the staff to explore a number of alternatives designed to alleviate the burdens that would otherwise be imposed on small systems to insure they remain a viable part of the telecommunications infrastructure. I assure you that the Commission is making every effort to minimize any negative repercussions for small operators resulting from re-regulation, within the bounds of the discretion provided to us by the Act itself.

As to your question regarding the customer service obligations of small cable systems, the specific issue of office locations is pending in our reconsideration of those rules and your comments will be made a part of that record as well (MM Docket No. 92-263). We can clarify, however, that there is no FCC requirement to maintain an office in each service area community. The relevant provision of our rules, 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(4)(c)(v), setting up a federal standard that local franchising authorities may exceed if they wish, requires only that a "customer service center" and "bill payment locations" be "conveniently located." A customer service center could be an equipment drop-off location open at least during normal business hours; a bill payment location could be a mail receptacle. A franchising authority may, however, in its discretion, require a cable operator to maintain an office in the service area community.

I assure you that your comments will be carefully weighed in our reconsideration proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman

MMB
CATV-RATES
PV
514
2989

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 21, 1993

The Honorable James H. Quello
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

As Members of the Texas Congressional delegation we are writing to urge you to take action to alleviate unnecessary burdens on small cable operators resulting from the Commission's recently published regulations.

As you are aware, Section 623(i) of the Cable Act "requires that the Commission develop and prescribe cable rate regulations that reduce the administrative burdens and cost of compliance for cable systems that have 1,000 or fewer subscribers." This provision was included in the Cable Act in an effort to protect small cable operators from excessive administrative burdens.

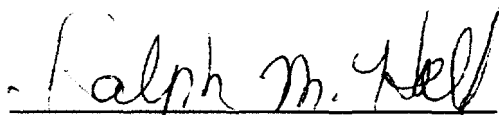
However, the FCC's proposed regulations impose virtually the same requirements on small system operators that are imposed on larger systems. These regulations which are very complex and time consuming put the majority of small cable systems at a disadvantage and may jeopardize their very existence. Such small systems simply lack the human and financial resources to bear the burden of regulations that require the services of a professional accountant and place severe restrictions on their ability to recover costs.

We are requesting that the Commission take a number of steps to ease the regulatory burden imposed on small cable systems, thereby assuring existing services to subscribers in rural or semi-rural areas. Specifically, we urge the Commission:

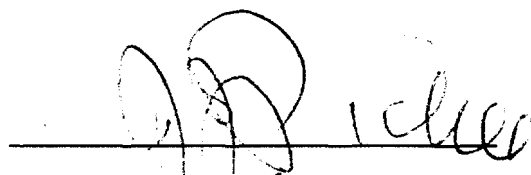
- o Permit rate regulation based on a simplified net income analysis which would be easier to calculate and apply than the benchmark approach.
- o Allow small operators to set rates up to the benchmark cap.
- o Allow small operators to set rates, taking into consideration costs associated with expansion and providing new services when setting such rates.
- o Permit systems to base rates on the bundling of service and equipment charges.
- o Clarify that small operators are not required to maintain local offices in each service area community, unless the population density of the community justifies maintaining such a local office.

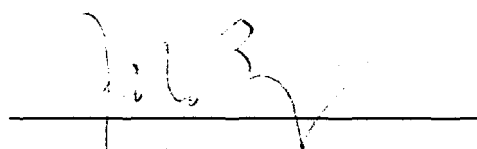
We are confident that these actions will accomplish the intent of Section 623(i) of the Cable Act and at the same time maintain the Act's consumer protections. Thank you for your consideration of this matter and we look forward to hearing from you soon.


Sincerely,

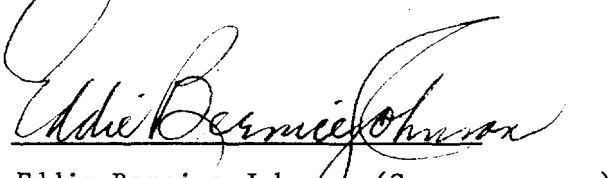

Ralph Hall


Mike Andrews


J J Pickle

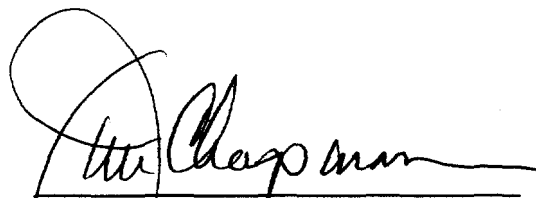

John Bryant

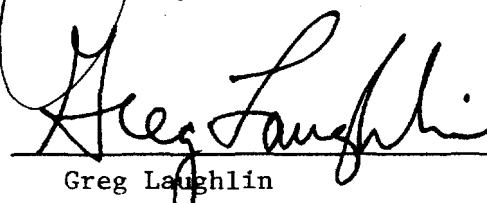

Pete Geren

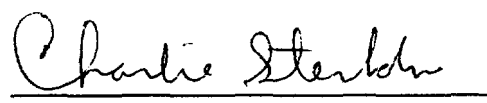

Eddie Bernice Johnson (Congresswoman)

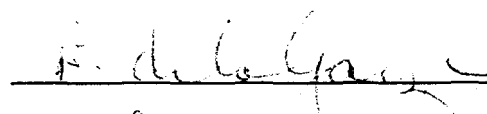

Joe Barton

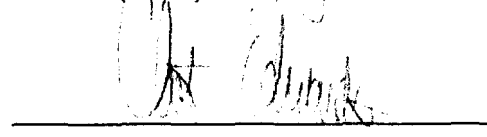

Martin Frost


Jim Chapman


Greg Laughlin


Charles Stenholm


E. (Kika) de la Garza


Chet Edwards


Jack Brooks


Jack Fields


Bill Archer

Sam Johnson

Sam Johnson

Charles Wilson

Charles Wilson

Ron Cole

Ronald Coleman

Frank Tejeda

Frank Tejeda
